

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 071456 TOSEC 030161
ORIGIN SS-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 071456 TOSEC 030161

EXDIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM PARIS DTD 31 MAR 1977 QTE

S E C R E T PARIS 09431

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR VN US

SUBJ: US/VN RELATIONS: TALKS WITH VIETNAMESE IN PARIS

REF: STATE 066352

1. VIETNAMESE FIRST SECRETARY DO THANH CAME TO THE
EMBASSY AT 1100 MARCH 31 TO DELIVER THE SRV FOREIGN
MINISTER, NGUYEN DUY TRINH'S, LETTER OF MARCH 29 IN
REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S MARCH 24 LETTER. THE
VIETNAMESE EMBASSY'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION IS QUOTED IN
PARA 2. THE VIETNAMESE ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED TO
EA/VLC.

2. QUOTE: TRANSLATION

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PAGE 02 STATE 071456 TOSEC 030161

HIS EXCELLENCY THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR
LETTER DATED MARCH 24, 1977.

AS FOR THE COMING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES IN PARIS, AS WE STATED DURING THE LAST TALKS IN HANOI, WE THINK THAT THEY MUST BE AT THE LEVEL OF AN AMBASSADOR SPECIALLY APPOINTED FOR THAT MISSION, OR AT A HIGHER LEVEL. AS FOR THE DATE, THE FAVOURABLE PERIOD IS THE END OF APRIL - THE BEGINNING OF MAY 1977 TO START THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

WE AGREE WITH YOU THAT THE LEVEL OF THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION, THE DATE AND THE PREPARATIONS NECESSARY TO THE NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE DISCUSSED AND AGREED BY THE EMBASSIES OF THE TWO PARTIES IN PARIS.

WE REAFFIRM THE SERIOUS ATTITUDE AND THE GOODWILL OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND WE HOPE THAT WITH THE COMPREHENSION AND THE ATTITUDE OF GOODWILL OF THE TWO PARTIES, THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

PLEASE ACCEPT, HIS EXCELLENCY, MY BEST REGARDS AND WISHES.

HANOI, MARCH 29, 1977

NGUTEN DUY TRINH
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIET NAM

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SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 071456 TOSEC 030161

HIS EXCELLENCY CYRUS VANCE
SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON D.C. UNQUOTE.

3. DO THANH NOTED THAT THE END OF APRIL, THE SRV PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE VISITING PARIS; HIS OFFICIAL VISIT OF APRIL 25-28 WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY ABOUT A 5-DAY INFORMAL VISIT. HE NOTED THAT THEIR EMBASSY FACILITIES, PERSONNEL AS WELL AS SPACE, WOULD PROBABLY BE A BIT TAXED IF THE BEGINNING OF THE TALKS COINCIDED WITH THE VISIT. HE NOTED SPECIFICALLY, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS ONLY THE EMBASSY'S PERSONAL VIEW OF POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO ENTERTAIN ANY DATE WHICH WE PROPOSE WITHIN THE SUGGESTED PERIOD OF END OF APRIL - BEGINNING OF MAY. DO THANH SAID THEY HOPED TO CONTINUE TO WORK OUT THE MODALITIES OF THE TALKS THROUGH OUR LIAISON CONTACTS. HE THOUGHT THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN RESOLVING THESE QUESTIONS, BUT NOTED THAT WITH THE CHANGE IN LEVEL OF

NEGOTIATORS, THERE WOULD NO DOUBT BE CHANGES IN SUCH
ARRANGEMENTS AS LOCALE FOR THE TALKS, LANGUAGES TO BE
USED (INCLUDING AN AMERICAN INTERPRETER), AND PRESS
HANDLING. HANOI HAS GIVEN THEM NO SPECIFIC IDEAS ON
THESE MATTERS YET, BUT HE EXPECTED THAT WE WOULD BE
DISCUSSING THEM AS SOON AS THE NAMES OF THE TWO
PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATORS WERE DECIDED ON.
GAMMON UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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